

Town of Maynard  
MAYNARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING  
Thursday, May 21, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Jack MacKeen at 7pm via Zoom.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jack MacKeen, Ellen Duggan, Lee Caras, Paul Boothroyd, Ann Gibson and John Brandon. Absent: John Courville, Brion Berghaus, Priscilla Sandberg and Peg Brown.

Ellen made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18th meeting. It was seconded by Paul and approved.

#### CURRENT TOPICS

Mill curfew bell preservation update:

Ellen reported that she had sent photos of the bell to the rigging company. No response has been received from them as yet. CPC funding of \$20,000 is being sought for the curfew bell project. The funds must be approved by Town meeting in June. She also noted that she had presented an MHC marker to the church.

Historic Marker for the Mill at Ken Olsen Plaza:

Ellen reported that the panel mockups and 90-95% of the digital files compiled by Dave Wisnewski have been given to Lynn Horsky. Additional photos were supplied by David Mark and Dave Griffin. All Commission members are being asked to review all of the draft panels as they become available. Ellen is also preparing an application to the Maynard Economic Development Committee for a \$2,000 BEEP grant in support of the project. She will be assisted by Jack in the application, but he will recuse himself from the Committee's review and approval process since he chairs the Committee. The total cost of the project will be about \$12,000; \$9,000 in production costs for the three panels (front and back) and \$3,000 for design work. Jack reported that the Town Accountant has agreed to encumber \$2,500 of MHC's funds for Lynn's design costs.

ACTION ITEMS: Jack will ask Lynn about the number of panel support posts required. He will also consult Justin DeMarco regarding snow issues and the how high the panel bottoms should be off the ground for easy snow removal. Ellen will talk to Lynn about Ann's suggestion that some of the panels' text and additional text be accessible by adding QR codes to the panels.

Historical Markers for Historically Significant Properties (HSP):

Markers for St. Bridget's Rectory and the Finnish Church have been completed. No additional markers will be done this year.

Sesquicentennial:

There was discussion about attempting to accomplish a perambulation of the Town bounds, a state-required action every five years, as a 150th anniversary event. This is a complicated process, even in non-Covid-19 times, given that portions of the boundary lines lie on private property and that ticks abound in many areas. It was suggested that the Town engineer, Wayne Amico, be asked to remind the Board of Selectmen of this requirement and that the BOS is subject to a fine for non-compliance.

Ellen stressed the need to focus on planning additional 150th anniversary events.

The Commission's Five-Year Plan:

A planned review was tabled.

Potential National Register Properties:

Paul offered a package of houses on Great Road for consideration as a group: #166 (Susan Smith Ladies Boarding School, 1848, HSP/not NR recommended), #174 (Jonathan Smith house, 1810, HSP/NR), #176 (a former cider mill not MACRIS/not HSP/not NR), #178 (Levi Smith house, Red Fox Inn, 1770, HSP/NR), and #206-208 (William Smith house, 1780, HSP/NR).

ACTION ITEM: Lee will find out if there is an official designation for a "National Register District".

Ellen offered the St. Bridget's complex. The parish is being suppressed, so its status is in flux.

ACTION ITEM: Ellen will contact Stuart Saginor, the state CPC Co-Ordinator regarding use of CPC funds for work on or about religious structures.

NEW TOPICS

Jack offered gift copies of the Kennedy book on early Maynard resident, James Carney.

Payment will be made for cemetery stones restoration work to Mr. Kai Nalenz, Gravestones of New England Restoration Company.

Peg will end her term as an alternate member in June. The Commission celebrates and is so very grateful for her service and her contributions.

Potential new alternate members were offered by Ellen: David Mark, Dave Wisnewski and Paul LeSage.

Jack stated that he would continue to serve as chairperson for an additional six months.

CPC application for the fall: the alumni field house?

Ann and Peg will work on completing a notebook with a page for each historical marker and house plaque that have been installed in Town.

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul, seconded by Ann and approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: June 16 (via ZOOM), September 15, 2020